## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application:

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For: ENCODING RATE CONTROLLING APPARATUS AND INFORMATION ENCODING APPARATUS

July 11, 2003

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## **PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Prior to examination, please amend the subject patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 7 of this paper.